Preventing Pollution: It's Up to Us

In the Santa Clara Valley, storm drains transport water directly to local creeks and San Francisco Bay, without treatment. Stormwater pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for people who live near polluted streams or baylands. Some common sources of this pollution include spilled oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment; construction debris; sediment created by erosion, landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers; and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into streets or storm drains.

Thirteen valley municipalities have joined together with Santa Clara County and the Santa Clara Valley Water District to educate local residents and businesses and fight stormwater pollution. Join us, by following the practices described in this pamphlet.

Doing the Job Right

Site Planning and Preventive Vehicle Maintenance

Designate one area of the construction site, well away from streams or storm drain inlets, for auto and equipment parking, refueling, and routine vehicle and equipment maintenance. Contain the area with berms, sand bags, or other barriers.

Stormwater Pollution from Heavy Equipment on Construction Sites

Poorly maintained vehicles and heavy equipment that leak fuel, oil, antifreeze or other fluids on the construction site are common sources of storm drain pollution. Prevent spills and leaks by isolating equipment from runoff channels, and by watching for leaks and other maintenance problems. Remove construction equipment from the site as soon as possible.

Maintain all vehicles and heavy equipment. Inspect frequently for and repair leaks.
Perform major maintenance, repair jobs, and vehicle and equipment washing off site where cleanup is easier.
If you must drain and replace motor oil, radiator coolant, or other fluids on site, use drip pans or drop cloths to catch drips and spills. Collect all spent fluids, store in separate containers, and properly dispose as hazardous waste (recycle whenever possible).
Do not use diesel oil to lubricate equipment parts, or clean equipment. Use only water for

☐ Cover exposed fifth wheel hitches and other oily or greasy equipment during rain events.

any onsite cleaning.

Spill Cleanup ☐ Clean up spills immediately when they happen. ☐ Never hose down "dirty" pavement or impermeable surfaces where fluids have spilled. Use dry cleanup methods (absorbent materials, cat litter, and/or rags) whenever possible and properly dispose of absorbent materials. ☐ Sweep up spilled dry materials immediately. Never attempt to "wash them away" with water, or bury them. ☐ Use as little water as possible for dust control. Ensure water used doesn't leave silt or discharge to storm drains. ☐ Clean up spills on dirt areas by digging up and properly disposing of contaminated soil. ☐ Report significant spills to the appropriate local

spill response agencies immediately. (See

☐ If the spill poses a significant hazard to human

health and safety, property or the environment,

you must also report it to the State Office of

Emergency Services (see reverse).

reverse side of brochure for telephone numbers.)

Small Business Hazardous Waste Disposal Program

Businesses that generate less than 27 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month are eligible to use Santa Clara County's Small Business Hazardous Waste Disposal Program. Call (408) 299-7300 for a quote, more information or guidance on disposal.

Palo Alto operates a similar program, with monthly collection, for small businesses. Call the City of Palo Alto, (650) 496-6980, or Greenfield Services Corporation, 1-800-433-5060 for information or to schedule an appointment.

This brochure is one in a series of pamphlets describing storm drain pollution prevention measures for specific types of construction industry activities. Other pamphlets include:

Home Repair and Remodeling General Construction and Site Supervision

Landscaping, Gardening, and Pool Maintenance

Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives

Roadwork and Paving



Urban Runof f **Pollution Prevention Program**

Earth-Moving Activities and Dewatering Activities

For additional brochures, call 1-800-794-2482.

Spill Response Agencies:

- 1. In the City of Santa Clara, call (408) 984-3080.
- 2. In the City of Palo Alto, call (650) 329-2413.
- 3. In the City of San Jose, dial 9-1-1 if hazardous materials enter the storm drain system. For nonhazardous spills, call (408) 945-3000.
- 4. In other cities, DIAL 9-1-1
- 5. State Office of Emergency Services Warning Center (24 hours). 1-800-852-7550
- 6. Santa Clara County Environmental Health

Local Pollution Control Agencies

County of Santa Clara Pollution Prevention Program. (408) 441-1195 County of Santa Clara Integrated Waste Management Program. (408) 441-1198 County of Santa Clara District Attorney Environmental Crimes Hotline. . . . (408) 299-TIPS Santa Clara County Santa Clara Valley Water Santa Clara Valley Water District Pollution Hotline. 1-888-510-5151 San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant. (408) 945-3000 Serving Campbell, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, San Jose, Santa Clara, Saratoga Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Serving Sunnyvale. (408) 730-7270 Regional Water Quality

Serving East Palo Alto Sanitary District, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, Palo

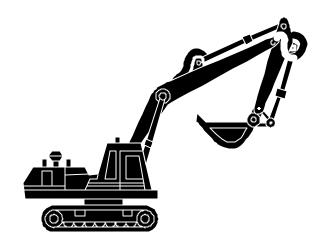
Alto. Stanford

Regional Water Quality Control Board San Francisco Bay Region. (510) 622-2300

June 2001

Heavy Equipment Operation

Best Management Practices for the Construction Industry



Who should use this brochure?

- Vehicle and equipment operators
- Site supervisors
- General contractors
- Home builders
- Developers